

## **$C^*$ -ALGEBRAS FROM $K$ GROUP REPRESENTATIONS**

VALENTIN DEACONU 

(Received 28 July 2020; accepted 16 November 2021; first published online 8 March 2022)

Communicated by Lisa Orloff Clark

### **Abstract**

We introduce certain  $C^*$ -algebras and  $k$ -graphs associated to  $k$  finite-dimensional unitary representations  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  of a compact group  $G$ . We define a higher rank Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $O_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$ , constructed from intertwiners of tensor powers of these representations. Under certain conditions, we show that this  $C^*$ -algebra is isomorphic to a corner in the  $C^*$ -algebra of a row-finite rank  $k$  graph  $\Lambda$  with no sources. For  $G$  finite and  $\rho_i$  faithful of dimension at least two, this graph is irreducible, it has vertices  $\hat{G}$  and the edges are determined by  $k$  commuting matrices obtained from the character table of the group. We illustrate this with some examples when  $O_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  is simple and purely infinite, and with some  $K$ -theory computations.

2020 *Mathematics subject classification*: primary 46L05.

*Keywords and phrases*: group representation, character table, product system, rank  $k$  graph, Cuntz–Pimsner algebra.

### **1. Introduction**

The study of graph  $C^*$ -algebras was motivated, among other reasons, by the Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $O_\rho$  associated to a group representation  $\rho$  (see [19, 22]). It is natural to imagine that a rank  $k$  graph is related to a fixed set of  $k$  representations  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  satisfying certain properties.

Given a compact group  $G$  and  $k$  finite-dimensional unitary representations  $\rho_i$  on Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}_i$  of dimensions  $d_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , we first construct a product system  $\mathcal{E}$  indexed by the semigroup  $(\mathbb{N}^k, +)$  with fibers  $\mathcal{E}_n = \mathcal{H}_1^{\otimes n_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_k^{\otimes n_k}$  for  $n = (n_1, \dots, n_k) \in \mathbb{N}^k$ . Using the representations  $\rho_i$ , the group  $G$  acts on each fiber of  $\mathcal{E}$  in a compatible way, so we obtain an action of  $G$  on the Cuntz–Pimsner algebra  $O(\mathcal{E})$ . This action determines the crossed product  $O(\mathcal{E}) \rtimes G$  and the fixed point algebra  $O(\mathcal{E})^G$ .

---

The author would like to thank the referee for useful suggestions.

© The Author(s), 2022. Published by Cambridge University Press on behalf of Australian Mathematical Publishing Association Inc. This is an Open Access article, distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution licence (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>), which permits unrestricted re-use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Inspired by Section 7 of [19] and Section 3.3 of [1], we define a higher rank Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  associated to the representations  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$ . This algebra is constructed from intertwiners  $\text{Hom}(\rho^n, \rho^m)$ , where  $\rho^n = \rho_1^{\otimes n_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \rho_k^{\otimes n_k}$  is acting on  $\mathcal{H}^n = \mathcal{H}_1^{\otimes n_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_k^{\otimes n_k}$  for  $n = (n_1, \dots, n_k) \in \mathbb{N}^k$ . We show that  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})^G$ .

If the representations  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  satisfy some mild conditions, we construct a  $k$ -colored graph  $\Lambda$  with vertex space  $\Lambda^0 = \hat{G}$ , and with edges  $\Lambda^{\varepsilon_i}$  given by some matrices  $M_i$  indexed by  $\hat{G}$ . Here  $\varepsilon_i = (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{N}^k$  with 1 in position  $i$  are the canonical generators. For  $v, w \in \hat{G}$ , the matrices  $M_i$  have entries

$$M_i(w, v) = |\{e \in \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i} : s(e) = v, r(e) = w\}| = \dim \text{Hom}(v, w \otimes \rho_i),$$

which is the multiplicity of  $v$  in  $w \otimes \rho_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Note that the matrices  $M_i$  commute because  $\rho_i \otimes \rho_j \cong \rho_j \otimes \rho_i$  for all  $i, j = 1, \dots, k$  and therefore

$$\dim \text{Hom}(v, w \otimes \rho_i \otimes \rho_j) = \dim \text{Hom}(v, w \otimes \rho_j \otimes \rho_i).$$

By a particular choice of isometric intertwiners in  $\text{Hom}(v, w \otimes \rho_i)$  for each  $v, w \in \hat{G}$  and for each  $i$ , we can choose bijections

$$\lambda_{ij} : \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} \rightarrow \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i},$$

obtaining a set of commuting squares for  $\Lambda$ . For  $k \geq 3$ , we need to check the associativity of the commuting squares, that is,

$$(id_\ell \times \lambda_{ij})(\lambda_{i\ell} \times id_j)(id_i \times \lambda_{j\ell}) = (\lambda_{j\ell} \times id_i)(id_j \times \lambda_{i\ell})(\lambda_{ij} \times id_\ell)$$

as bijections from  $\Lambda^{\varepsilon_i} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_\ell}$  to  $\Lambda^{\varepsilon_\ell} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i}$  for all  $i < j < \ell$  (see [14]). If these conditions are satisfied, we obtain a rank  $k$  graph  $\Lambda$ , which is row-finite with no sources but, in general, is not unique.

In many situations,  $\Lambda$  is cofinal and it satisfies the aperiodicity condition, so  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is simple. For  $k = 2$ , the  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is unique when it is simple and purely infinite, because its  $K$ -theory depends only on the matrices  $M_1, M_2$ . It is an open question what happens for  $k \geq 3$ .

Assuming that the representations  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  determine a rank  $k$  graph  $\Lambda$ , we prove that the Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  is isomorphic to a corner of  $C^*(\Lambda)$ , so if  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is simple, then  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  is Morita equivalent to  $C^*(\Lambda)$ . In particular cases, we can compute its  $K$ -theory using results from [11].

## 2. The product system

Product systems over arbitrary semigroups were introduced by Fowler [13], inspired by work of Arveson, and studied by several authors (see [1, 4, 26]). In this paper, we are mostly interested in product systems  $\mathcal{E}$  indexed by  $(\mathbb{N}^k, +)$ , associated to some representations  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  of a compact group  $G$ . We remind the reader of some general definitions and constructions with product systems, but we restrict our attention to the

Cuntz–Pimsner algebra  $O(\mathcal{E})$  and we mention some properties in particular cases only (see Example 2.3 for  $P = \mathbb{N}^k$ ).

**DEFINITION 2.1.** Let  $(P, \cdot)$  be a discrete semigroup with identity  $e$  and let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra. A *product system* of  $C^*$ -correspondences over  $A$  indexed by  $P$  is a semigroup  $\mathcal{E} = \bigsqcup_{p \in P} \mathcal{E}_p$  and a map  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow P$  such that:

- for each  $p \in P$ , the fiber  $\mathcal{E}_p \subset \mathcal{E}$  is a  $C^*$ -correspondence over  $A$  with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_p$ ;
- the identity fiber  $\mathcal{E}_e$  is  $A$  viewed as a  $C^*$ -correspondence over itself;
- for  $p, q \in P \setminus \{e\}$ , the multiplication map

$$\mathcal{M}_{p,q} : \mathcal{E}_p \times \mathcal{E}_q \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{pq}, \quad \mathcal{M}_{p,q}(x, y) = xy$$

induces an isomorphism  $\mathcal{M}_{p,q} : \mathcal{E}_p \otimes_A \mathcal{E}_q \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{pq}$ ; and

- multiplication in  $\mathcal{E}$  by elements of  $\mathcal{E}_e = A$  implements the right and left actions of  $A$  on each  $\mathcal{E}_p$ . In particular,  $\mathcal{M}_{p,e}$  is an isomorphism.

Let  $\phi_p : A \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{E}_p)$  be the homomorphism implementing the left action. The product system  $\mathcal{E}$  is said to be *essential* if each  $\mathcal{E}_p$  is an essential correspondence, that is, if the span of  $\phi_p(A)\mathcal{E}_p$  is dense in  $\mathcal{E}_p$  for all  $p \in P$ . In this case, the map  $\mathcal{M}_{e,p}$  is also an isomorphism.

If the maps  $\phi_p$  take values in  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{E}_p)$ , then the product system is called *row-finite* or *proper*. If all maps  $\phi_p$  are injective, then  $\mathcal{E}$  is called *faithful*.

**DEFINITION 2.2.** Given a product system  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow P$  over  $A$  and a  $C^*$ -algebra  $B$ , a map  $\psi : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow B$  is called a *Toeplitz representation* of  $\mathcal{E}$  if:

- denoting  $\psi_p := \psi|_{\mathcal{E}_p}$ , each  $\psi_p : \mathcal{E}_p \rightarrow B$  is linear,  $\psi_e : A \rightarrow B$  is a  $*$ -homomorphism, and

$$\psi_e(\langle x, y \rangle_p) = \psi_p(x)^* \psi_p(y)$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{E}_p$ ; and

- $\psi_p(x)\psi_q(y) = \psi_{pq}(xy)$  for all  $p, q \in P, x \in \mathcal{E}_p, y \in \mathcal{E}_q$ .

For each  $p \in P$ , we write  $\psi^{(p)}$  for the homomorphism  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{E}_p) \rightarrow B$  obtained by extending the map  $\theta_{\xi,\eta} \mapsto \psi_p(\xi)\psi_p(\eta)^*$ , where

$$\theta_{\xi,\eta}(\zeta) = \xi\langle \eta, \zeta \rangle.$$

The Toeplitz representation  $\psi : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow B$  is *Cuntz–Pimsner covariant* if  $\psi^{(p)}(\phi_p(a)) = \psi_e(a)$  for all  $p \in P$  and all  $a \in A$  such that  $\phi_p(a) \in \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{E}_p)$ .

There is a  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{T}_A(\mathcal{E})$  called the Toeplitz algebra of  $\mathcal{E}$  and a representation  $i_{\mathcal{E}} : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_A(\mathcal{E})$  which is universal in the following sense:  $\mathcal{T}_A(\mathcal{E})$  is generated by  $i_{\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{E})$  and, for any representation  $\psi : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow B$ , there is a homomorphism  $\psi_* : \mathcal{T}_A(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow B$  such that  $\psi_* \circ i_{\mathcal{E}} = \psi$ .

The Cuntz–Pimsner algebra  $O_A(\mathcal{E})$  of a product system  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow P$  is universal for Cuntz–Pimsner covariant representations.

There are various extra conditions on a product system  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow P$  and several other notions of covariance besides the Cuntz–Pimsner covariance from Definition 2.2, which allow one to define the Cuntz–Pimsner algebra  $\mathcal{O}_A(\mathcal{E})$  or the Cuntz–Nica–Pimsner algebra  $\mathcal{NO}_A(\mathcal{E})$  satisfying certain properties (see [1, 4, 10, 13, 26], among others). We mention that  $\mathcal{O}_A(\mathcal{E})$  (or  $\mathcal{NO}_A(\mathcal{E})$ ) comes with a covariant representation  $j_{\mathcal{E}} : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_A(\mathcal{E})$  and is universal in the following sense:  $\mathcal{O}_A(\mathcal{E})$  is generated by  $j_{\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{E})$  and, for any covariant representation  $\psi : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow B$ , there is a homomorphism  $\psi_* : \mathcal{O}_A(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow B$  such that  $\psi_* \circ j_{\mathcal{E}} = \psi$ . Under certain conditions,  $\mathcal{O}_A(\mathcal{E})$  satisfies a gauge invariant uniqueness theorem.

**EXAMPLE 2.3.** For a product system  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow P$  with fibers  $\mathcal{E}_p$  that are nonzero finite-dimensional Hilbert spaces, and, in particular,  $A = \mathcal{E}_e = \mathbb{C}$ , let us fix an orthonormal basis  $\mathcal{B}_p$  in  $\mathcal{E}_p$ . Then a Toeplitz representation  $\psi : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow B$  gives rise to a family of isometries  $\{\psi(\xi) : \xi \in \mathcal{B}_p\}_{p \in P}$  with mutually orthogonal range projections. In this case,  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{E}) = \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathcal{E})$  is generated by a collection of Cuntz–Toeplitz algebras which interact according to the multiplication maps  $\mathcal{M}_{p,q}$  in  $\mathcal{E}$ .

A representation  $\psi : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow B$  is Cuntz–Pimsner covariant if

$$\sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{B}_p} \psi(\xi)\psi(\xi)^* = \psi(1)$$

for all  $p \in P$ . The Cuntz–Pimsner algebra  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathcal{E})$  is generated by a collection of Cuntz algebras, so it could be thought of as a multidimensional Cuntz algebra. Fowler proved in [12] that if the function  $p \mapsto \dim \mathcal{E}_p$  is injective, then the algebra  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})$  is simple and purely infinite. For other examples of multidimensional Cuntz algebras, see [3].

**EXAMPLE 2.4.** A row-finite *k*-graph with no sources  $\Lambda$  (see [18]) determines a product system  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^k$  with  $\mathcal{E}_0 = A = C_0(\Lambda^0)$  and  $\mathcal{E}_n = \overline{C_c(\Lambda^n)}$  for  $n \neq 0$  such that we have a  $\mathbb{T}^k$ -equivariant isomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_A(\mathcal{E}) \cong C^*(\Lambda)$ . Recall that, for product systems indexed by  $\mathbb{N}^k$ , the universal property induces a gauge action on  $\mathcal{O}_A(\mathcal{E})$  defined by  $\gamma_z(j_{\mathcal{E}}(\xi)) = z^n j_{\mathcal{E}}(\xi)$  for  $z \in \mathbb{T}^k$  and  $\xi \in \mathcal{E}_n$ .

The following two definitions and two results are taken from [7]; see also [15, 17].

**DEFINITION 2.5.** An action  $\beta$  of a locally compact group *G* on a product system  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow P$  over *A* is a family  $(\beta^p)_{p \in P}$  such that  $\beta^p$  is an action of *G* on each fiber  $\mathcal{E}_p$  compatible with the action  $\alpha = \beta^e$  on *A*, and, furthermore, the actions  $(\beta^p)_{p \in P}$  are compatible with the multiplication maps  $\mathcal{M}_{p,q}$  in the sense that

$$\beta_g^{p,q}(\mathcal{M}_{p,q}(x \otimes y)) = \mathcal{M}_{p,q}(\beta_g^p(x) \otimes \beta_g^q(y))$$

for all  $g \in G, x \in \mathcal{E}_p$  and  $y \in \mathcal{E}_q$ .

**DEFINITION 2.6.** If  $\beta$  is an action of *G* on the product system  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow P$ , we define the crossed product  $\mathcal{E} \rtimes_{\beta} G$  as the product system indexed by *P* with fibers  $\mathcal{E}_p \rtimes_{\beta^p} G$ , which are *C\**-correspondences over  $A \rtimes_{\alpha} G$ . For  $\zeta \in C_c(G, \mathcal{E}_p)$  and  $\eta \in C_c(G, \mathcal{E}_q)$ , the product

$\zeta\eta \in C_c(G, \mathcal{E}_{pq})$  is defined by

$$(\zeta\eta)(s) = \int_G \mathcal{M}_{p,q}(\zeta(t) \otimes \beta_t^q(\eta(t^{-1}s))) dt.$$

**PROPOSITION 2.7.** *The set  $\mathcal{E} \rtimes_{\beta} G = \bigsqcup_{p \in P} \mathcal{E}_p \rtimes_{\beta^p} G$  with the above multiplication satisfies all the properties of a product system of  $C^*$ -correspondences over  $A \rtimes_{\alpha} G$ .*

**PROPOSITION 2.8.** *Suppose that a locally compact group  $G$  acts on a row-finite and faithful product system  $\mathcal{E}$  indexed by  $P = (\mathbb{N}^k, +)$  via automorphisms  $\beta_g^p$ . Then  $G$  acts on the Cuntz–Pimsner algebra  $O_A(\mathcal{E})$  via automorphisms denoted by  $\gamma_g$ . Moreover, if  $G$  is amenable, then  $\mathcal{E} \rtimes_{\beta} G$  is row-finite and faithful, and*

$$O_A(\mathcal{E}) \rtimes_{\gamma} G \cong O_{A \rtimes_{\alpha} G}(\mathcal{E} \rtimes_{\beta} G).$$

Now we define the product system associated to  $k$  representations of a compact group  $G$ . We limit ourselves to finite-dimensional unitary representations, even though the definition makes sense in greater generality.

**DEFINITION 2.9.** Given a compact group  $G$  and  $k$  finite-dimensional unitary representations  $\rho_i$  of  $G$  on Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , we construct the product system  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}(\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k)$  indexed by the commutative monoid  $(\mathbb{N}^k, +)$ , with fibers

$$\mathcal{E}_n = \mathcal{H}^n = \mathcal{H}_1^{\otimes n_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_k^{\otimes n_k}$$

for  $n = (n_1, \dots, n_k) \in \mathbb{N}^k$ ; in particular,  $A = \mathcal{E}_0 = \mathbb{C}$ . The multiplication maps

$$\mathcal{M}_{n,m} : \mathcal{E}_n \times \mathcal{E}_m \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{n+m}$$

in  $\mathcal{E}$  are defined by using the standard isomorphisms  $\rho_i \otimes \rho_j \cong \rho_j \otimes \rho_i$  for all  $i < j$ . The associativity in  $\mathcal{E}$  follows from the fact that

$$\mathcal{M}_{n+m,p} \circ (\mathcal{M}_{n,m} \times id) = \mathcal{M}_{n,m+p} \circ (id \times \mathcal{M}_{m,p})$$

as maps from  $\mathcal{E}_n \times \mathcal{E}_m \times \mathcal{E}_p$  to  $\mathcal{E}_{n+m+p}$ . Then  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}(\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k)$  is called the product system of the representations  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$ .

**REMARK 2.10.** Similarly, a semigroup  $P$  of unitary representations of a group  $G$  determines a product system  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow P$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.11.** *With notation as in Definition 2.9, assume that  $d_i = \dim \mathcal{H}_i \geq 2$ . Then the Cuntz–Pimsner algebra  $O(\mathcal{E})$  associated to the product system  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^k$  described above is isomorphic with the  $C^*$ -algebra of a rank  $k$  graph  $\Gamma$  with a single vertex and with  $|\Gamma^{e_i}| = d_i$ . This isomorphism is equivariant for the gauge action. Moreover,*

$$O(\mathcal{E}) \cong O_{d_1} \otimes \dots \otimes O_{d_k},$$

where  $O_n$  is the Cuntz algebra.

**PROOF.** Indeed, by choosing a basis in each  $\mathcal{H}_i$ , we get the edges  $\Gamma^{\varepsilon_i}$  in a  $k$ -colored graph  $\Gamma$  with a single vertex. The isomorphisms  $\rho_i \otimes \rho_j \cong \rho_j \otimes \rho_i$  determine the factorization rules of the form  $ef = fe$  for  $e \in \Gamma^{\varepsilon_i}$  and  $f \in \Gamma^{\varepsilon_j}$ , which obviously satisfy the associativity condition. In particular, the corresponding isometries in  $C^*(\Gamma)$  commute and determine, by the universal property, a surjective homomorphism  $\varphi$  onto  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})$ , preserving the gauge action. Using the gauge invariant uniqueness theorem for  $k$ -graph algebras, the map  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism. In particular,  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) \cong \mathcal{O}_{d_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{O}_{d_k}$ .  $\square$

**REMARK 2.12.** For  $d_i \geq 2$ , the  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) \cong C^*(\Gamma)$  is always simple and purely infinite since it is a tensor product of simple and purely infinite  $C^*$ -algebras. If  $d_i = 1$  for some  $i$ , then the isomorphism in Proposition 2.11 still holds, but  $C^*(\Gamma) \cong \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})$  contains a copy of  $C(\mathbb{T})$ , so it is not simple. Of course, if  $d_i = 1$  for all  $i$ , then  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) \cong C(\mathbb{T}^k)$ . For more on single vertex rank  $k$  graphs, see [5, 6].

**PROPOSITION 2.13.** *The compact group  $G$  acts on each fiber  $\mathcal{E}_n$  of the product system  $\mathcal{E}$  via the representation  $\rho^n = \rho_1^{\otimes n_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \rho_k^{\otimes n_k}$ . This action is compatible with the multiplication maps and commutes with the gauge action of  $\mathbb{T}^k$ . The crossed product  $\mathcal{E} \rtimes G$  becomes a row-finite and faithful product system indexed by  $\mathbb{N}^k$  over the group  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(G)$ . Moreover,*

$$\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) \rtimes G \cong \mathcal{O}_{C^*(G)}(\mathcal{E} \rtimes G).$$

**PROOF.** Indeed, for  $g \in G$  and  $\xi \in \mathcal{E}_n = \mathcal{H}^n$ , we define  $g \cdot \xi = \rho^n(g)(\xi)$ , and since  $\rho_i \otimes \rho_j \cong \rho_j \otimes \rho_i$ , we have  $g \cdot (\xi \otimes \eta) = g \cdot \xi \otimes g \cdot \eta$  for  $\xi \in \mathcal{E}_n, \eta \in \mathcal{E}_m$ . Clearly,

$$g \cdot \gamma_z(\xi) = g \cdot (z^n \xi) = z^n(g \cdot \xi) = \gamma_z(g \cdot \xi),$$

so the action of  $G$  commutes with the gauge action. Using Proposition 2.7,  $\mathcal{E} \rtimes G$  becomes a product system indexed by  $\mathbb{N}^k$  over  $C^*(G) \cong \mathbb{C} \rtimes G$  with fibers  $\mathcal{E}_n \rtimes G$ . The isomorphism  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) \rtimes G \cong \mathcal{O}_{C^*(G)}(\mathcal{E} \rtimes G)$  follows from Proposition 2.8.  $\square$

**COROLLARY 2.14.** *Since the action of  $G$  commutes with the gauge action, the group  $G$  acts on the core algebra  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})^{\mathbb{T}^k}$ .*

**REMARK 2.15.** In some cases,  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) \rtimes G$  is isomorphic to the self-similar  $k$ -graph  $C^*$ -algebras  $\mathcal{O}_{G,\Lambda}$  introduced in [21]. Moreover, for a self-similar  $k$ -graph  $(G, \Lambda)$  with  $|\Lambda^0| = 1$ , we have  $\mathcal{O}_{G,\Lambda} \cong \mathcal{Q}(\Lambda \bowtie G)$ , where  $\Lambda \bowtie G$  is a Zappa–Szépf product and  $\mathcal{Q}(\Lambda \bowtie G)$  is its boundary quotient  $C^*$ -algebra (see Example 3.10(4) in [21] and Theorem 3.3 in [20]). I thank the referee for bringing this relationship to my attention.

### 3. The Doplicher–Roberts algebra

The Doplicher–Roberts algebras  $\mathcal{O}_\rho$ , denoted by  $\mathcal{O}_G$  in [8], were introduced to construct a new duality theory for compact Lie groups  $G$  that strengthens the Tannaka–Krein duality. Here  $\rho$  is the  $n$ -dimensional representation of  $G$  defined by the inclusion  $G \subseteq U(n)$  in some unitary group  $U(n)$ . Let  $\mathcal{T}_G$  denote the representation

category whose objects are tensor powers  $\rho^p = \rho^{\otimes p}$  for  $p \geq 0$ , and whose arrows are the intertwiners  $Hom(\rho^p, \rho^q)$ . The group  $G$  acts via  $\rho$  on the Cuntz algebra  $O_n$  and  $O_G = O_\rho$  is identified in [8] with the fixed point algebra  $O_n^G$ . If  $\sigma$  denotes the restriction to  $O_\rho$  of the canonical endomorphism of  $O_n$ , then  $\mathcal{T}_G$  can be reconstructed from the pair  $(O_\rho, \sigma)$ . Subsequently, Doplicher–Roberts algebras were associated to any object  $\rho$  in a strict tensor  $C^*$ -category (see [9]).

Given finite-dimensional unitary representations  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  of a compact group  $G$  on Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}_1, \dots, \mathcal{H}_k$ , we construct a Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $O_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  from intertwiners

$$Hom(\rho^n, \rho^m) = \{T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^n, \mathcal{H}^m) \mid T\rho^n(g) = \rho^m(g)T \text{ for all } g \in G\},$$

where, for  $n = (n_1, \dots, n_k) \in \mathbb{N}^k$ , the representation  $\rho^n = \rho_1^{\otimes n_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \rho_k^{\otimes n_k}$  acts on  $\mathcal{H}^n = \mathcal{H}_1^{\otimes n_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_k^{\otimes n_k}$ . Note that  $\rho^0 = \iota$  is the trivial representation of  $G$ , acting on  $\mathcal{H}^0 = \mathbb{C}$ . This Doplicher–Roberts algebra is a subalgebra of  $O(\mathcal{E})$  for the product system  $\mathcal{E}$ , as in Definition 2.9.

**LEMMA 3.1.** *Consider*

$$\mathcal{A}_0 = \bigcup_{m, n \in \mathbb{N}^k} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^n, \mathcal{H}^m).$$

*Then the linear span of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  becomes a  $*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  with appropriate multiplication and involution. This algebra has a natural  $\mathbb{Z}^k$ -grading coming from a gauge action of  $\mathbb{T}^k$ . Moreover, the Cuntz–Pimsner algebra  $O(\mathcal{E})$  of the product system  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}(\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k)$  is equivariantly isomorphic to the  $C^*$ -closure of  $\mathcal{A}$  in the unique  $C^*$ -norm for which the gauge action is isometric.*

**PROOF.** Recall that the Cuntz algebra  $O_n$  contains a canonical Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  of dimension  $n$  and it can be constructed as the closure of the linear span of  $\bigcup_{p, q \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^p, \mathcal{H}^q)$  using embeddings

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^p, \mathcal{H}^q) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^{p+1}, \mathcal{H}^{q+1}), \quad T \mapsto T \otimes I,$$

where  $\mathcal{H}^p = \mathcal{H}^{\otimes p}$  and  $I : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is the identity map. This linear span becomes a  $*$ -algebra with a multiplication given by composition and an involution (see [8] and Proposition 2.5 in [16]).

Similarly, for all  $r \in \mathbb{N}^k$ , we consider embeddings  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^n, \mathcal{H}^m) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^{n+r}, \mathcal{H}^{m+r})$  given by  $T \mapsto T \otimes I_r$ , where  $I_r : \mathcal{H}^r \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^r$  is the identity map, and we endow  $\mathcal{A}$  with a multiplication given by composition and an involution. More precisely, if  $S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^n, \mathcal{H}^m)$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^q, \mathcal{H}^p)$ , then the product  $ST$  is

$$(S \otimes I_{p \vee n - n}) \circ (T \otimes I_{p \vee n - p}) \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^{q+p \vee n - p}, \mathcal{H}^{m+p \vee n - n}),$$

where we write  $p \vee n$  for the coordinatewise maximum. This multiplication is well defined in  $\mathcal{A}$  and is associative. The adjoint of  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^n, \mathcal{H}^m)$  is  $T^* \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^m, \mathcal{H}^n)$ .

There is a natural  $\mathbb{Z}^k$ -grading on  $\mathcal{A}$  given by the gauge action  $\gamma$  of  $\mathbb{T}^k$ , where, for  $z = (z_1, \dots, z_k) \in \mathbb{T}^k$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^n, \mathcal{H}^m)$ , we define

$$\gamma_z(T)(\xi) = z_1^{m_1-n_1} \dots z_k^{m_k-n_k} T(\xi).$$

Adapting the argument in Theorem 4.2 in [9] for  $\mathbb{Z}^k$ -graded  $C^*$ -algebras, the  $C^*$ -closure of  $\mathcal{A}$  in the unique  $C^*$ -norm for which  $\gamma_z$  is isometric is well defined. The map

$$(T_1, \dots, T_k) \mapsto T_1 \otimes \dots \otimes T_k,$$

where

$$T_1 \otimes \dots \otimes T_k : \mathcal{H}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^m, (T_1 \otimes \dots \otimes T_k)(\xi_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \xi_k) = T_1(\xi_1) \otimes \dots \otimes T_k(\xi_k)$$

for  $T_i \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_i^{n_i}, \mathcal{H}_i^{m_i})$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  preserves the gauge action and it can be extended to an equivariant isomorphism from  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) \cong \mathcal{O}_{d_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{O}_{d_k}$  to the  $C^*$ -closure of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Note that the closure of  $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}^k} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^n, \mathcal{H}^n)$  is isomorphic to the core  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})^{\mathbb{T}^k}$ , that is the fixed point algebra under the gauge action, which is a UHF-algebra.  $\square$

To define the Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$ , we again identify  $\text{Hom}(\rho^n, \rho^m)$  with a subset of  $\text{Hom}(\rho^{n+r}, \rho^{m+r})$  for each  $r \in \mathbb{N}^k$ , via  $T \mapsto T \otimes I_r$ . After this identification, it follows that the linear span  ${}^0\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  of  $\bigcup_{m, n \in \mathbb{N}^k} \text{Hom}(\rho^n, \rho^m) \subseteq \mathcal{A}_0$  has a natural multiplication and involution inherited from  $\mathcal{A}$ . Indeed, a computation shows that if  $S \in \text{Hom}(\rho^n, \rho^m)$  and  $T \in \text{Hom}(\rho^q, \rho^p)$ , then  $S^* \in \text{Hom}(\rho^m, \rho^n)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} & ((S \otimes I_{p \vee n - n}) \circ (T \otimes I_{p \vee n - p})) \rho^{q+p \vee n - p}(g) \\ &= \rho^{m+p \vee n - n}(g) ((S \otimes I_{p \vee n - n}) \circ (T \otimes I_{p \vee n - p})), \end{aligned}$$

so  $(S \otimes I_{p \vee n - n}) \circ (T \otimes I_{p \vee n - p}) \in \text{Hom}(\rho^{q+p \vee n - p}, \rho^{m+p \vee n - n})$  and  ${}^0\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  is closed under these operations. Since the action of  $G$  commutes with the gauge action, there is a natural  $\mathbb{Z}^k$ -grading of  ${}^0\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  given by the gauge action  $\gamma$  of  $\mathbb{T}^k$  on  $\mathcal{A}$ .

It follows that the closure  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  of  ${}^0\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  in  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})$  is well defined, obtaining the Doplicher–Roberts algebra associated to the representations  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$ . This  $C^*$ -algebra also has a  $\mathbb{Z}^k$ -grading and a gauge action of  $\mathbb{T}^k$ . By construction,  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k} \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})$ .

**REMARK 3.2.** For a compact Lie group  $G$ , our Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  is Morita equivalent with the higher rank Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{D}$  defined in [1]. It is also the section  $C^*$ -algebra of a Fell bundle over  $\mathbb{Z}^k$ .

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Let  $\rho_i$  be finite-dimensional unitary representations of a compact group  $G$  on Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}_i$  of dimensions  $d_i \geq 2$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Then the Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  is isomorphic to the fixed point algebra  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})^G \cong (\mathcal{O}_{d_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{O}_{d_k})^G$ , where  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}(\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k)$  is the product system described in Definition 2.9.*

**PROOF.** We know from Lemma 3.1 that  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})$  is isomorphic to the  $C^*$ -algebra generated by the linear span of  $\mathcal{A}_0 = \bigcup_{m, n \in \mathbb{N}^k} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^n, \mathcal{H}^m)$ . The group  $G$  acts on



$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^n, \mathcal{H}^m)$  by

$$(g \cdot T)(\xi) = \rho^m(g)T(\rho^n(g^{-1})\xi)$$

and the fixed point set is  $Hom(\rho^n, \rho^m)$ . Indeed, we have  $g \cdot T = T$  if and only if  $T\rho^n(g) = \rho^m(g)T$ . This action is compatible with the embeddings and the operations, so it extends to the  $*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  and the fixed point algebra is the linear span of  $\bigcup_{m,n \in \mathbb{N}^k} Hom(\rho^n, \rho^m)$ .

It follows that  ${}^0\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k} \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})^G$  and therefore its closure  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  is isomorphic to a subalgebra of  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})^G$ . For the other inclusion, any element in  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})^G$  can be approximated with an element from  ${}^0\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$ , and hence  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k} = \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})^G$ .  $\square$

**REMARK 3.4.** By left tensoring with  $I_r$  for  $r \in \mathbb{N}^k$ , we obtain some canonical unital endomorphisms  $\sigma_r$  of  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$ .

In the next section, we show that, in many cases,  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  is isomorphic to a corner of  $C^*(\Lambda)$  for a rank  $k$  graph  $\Lambda$ , so, in some cases, we can compute its  $K$ -theory. It would be nice to express the  $K$ -theory of  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  in terms of the maps  $\pi \mapsto \pi \otimes \rho_i$  defined on the representation ring  $\mathcal{R}(G)$ .

### 4. The rank $k$ graphs

For convenience, we first collect some facts about higher rank graphs, introduced in [18]. A rank  $k$  graph or  $k$ -graph  $(\Lambda, d)$  consists of a countable small category  $\Lambda$  with range and source maps  $r$  and  $s$  together with a functor  $d : \Lambda \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^k$  called the degree map, satisfying the factorization property: for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and all  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}^k$  with  $d(\lambda) = m + n$ , there are unique elements  $\mu, \nu \in \Lambda$  such that  $\lambda = \mu\nu$  and  $d(\mu) = m, d(\nu) = n$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{N}^k$ , we write  $\Lambda^n := d^{-1}(n)$  and call it the set of paths of degree  $n$ . For  $\varepsilon_i = (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)$  with 1 in position  $i$ , the elements in  $\Lambda^{\varepsilon_i}$  are called edges and the elements in  $\Lambda^0$  are called vertices.

A  $k$ -graph  $\Lambda$  can be constructed from  $\Lambda^0$  and from its  $k$ -colored skeleton  $\Lambda^{\varepsilon_1} \cup \dots \cup \Lambda^{\varepsilon_k}$  using a complete and associative collection of commuting squares or factorization rules (see [25]).

The  $k$ -graph  $\Lambda$  is *row-finite* if, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}^k$  and all  $v \in \Lambda^0$ , the set  $v\Lambda^n := \{\lambda \in \Lambda^n : r(\lambda) = v\}$  is finite. It has no sources if  $v\Lambda^n \neq \emptyset$  for all  $v \in \Lambda^0$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}^k$ . A  $k$ -graph  $\Lambda$  is said to be *irreducible* (or *strongly connected*) if, for every  $u, v \in \Lambda^0$ , there is  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  such that  $u = r(\lambda)$  and  $v = s(\lambda)$ .

Recall that  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is the universal  $C^*$ -algebra generated by a family  $\{S_\lambda : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  of partial isometries satisfying:

- $\{S_v : v \in \Lambda^0\}$  is a family of mutually orthogonal projections;
- $S_{\lambda\mu} = S_\lambda S_\mu$  for all  $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda$  such that  $s(\lambda) = r(\mu)$ ;
- $S_\lambda^* S_\lambda = S_{s(\lambda)}$  for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ; and

- for all  $v \in \Lambda^0$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}^k$ ,

$$S_v = \sum_{\lambda \in v\Lambda^n} S_\lambda S_\lambda^*.$$

A  $k$ -graph  $\Lambda$  is said to satisfy the *aperiodicity condition* if, for every vertex  $v \in \Lambda^0$ , there is an infinite path  $x \in v\Lambda^\infty$  such that  $\sigma^m x \neq \sigma^n x$  for all  $m \neq n$  in  $\mathbb{N}^k$ , where  $\sigma^m : \Lambda^\infty \rightarrow \Lambda^\infty$  are the shift maps. We say that  $\Lambda$  is *cofinal* if, for every  $x \in \Lambda^\infty$  and  $v \in \Lambda^0$ , there is  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}^k$  such that  $s(\lambda) = x(n)$  and  $r(\lambda) = v$ .

Assume that  $\Lambda$  is row-finite with no sources and that it satisfies the aperiodicity condition. Then  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is simple if and only if  $\Lambda$  is cofinal (see Proposition 4.8 in [18] and Theorem 3.4 in [23]).

We say that a path  $\mu \in \Lambda$  is a loop with an entrance if  $s(\mu) = r(\mu)$ , and there exists  $\alpha \in s(\mu)\Lambda$  such that  $d(\mu) \geq d(\alpha)$  and there is no  $\beta \in \Lambda$  with  $\mu = \alpha\beta$ . We say that every vertex *connects to a loop with an entrance* if, for every  $v \in \Lambda^0$ , there is a loop with an entrance  $\mu \in \Lambda$ , and a path  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  with  $r(\lambda) = v$  and  $s(\lambda) = r(\mu) = s(\mu)$ . If  $\Lambda$  satisfies the aperiodicity condition and every vertex connects to a loop with an entrance, then  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is purely infinite (see Proposition 4.9 in [18] and Proposition 8.8 in [24]).

Given finite-dimensional unitary representations  $\rho_i$  of a compact group  $G$  on Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , we want to construct a rank  $k$  graph  $\Lambda = \Lambda(\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k)$ . Let  $R$  be the set of equivalence classes of irreducible summands  $\pi : G \rightarrow U(\mathcal{H}_\pi)$  which appear in the tensor powers  $\rho^n = \rho_1^{\otimes n_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \rho_k^{\otimes n_k}$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}^k$ , as in [22]. Take  $\Lambda^0 = R$  and, for each  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , consider the set of edges  $\Lambda^{\varepsilon_i}$  which are uniquely determined by the matrices  $M_i$  with entries

$$M_i(w, v) = |\{e \in \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i} : s(e) = v, r(e) = w\}| = \dim \text{Hom}(v, w \otimes \rho_i),$$

where  $v, w \in R$ . The matrices  $M_i$  commute since  $\rho_i \otimes \rho_j \cong \rho_j \otimes \rho_i$  and therefore

$$\dim \text{Hom}(v, w \otimes \rho_i \otimes \rho_j) = \dim \text{Hom}(v, w \otimes \rho_j \otimes \rho_i)$$

for all  $i < j$ . This allows us to fix some bijections

$$\lambda_{ij} : \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} \rightarrow \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i}$$

for all  $1 \leq i < j \leq k$ , which determine the commuting squares of  $\Lambda$ . As usual,

$$\Lambda^{\varepsilon_i} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} = \{(e, f) \in \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i} \times \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} : s(e) = r(f)\}.$$

For  $k \geq 3$ , we also need to verify that  $\lambda_{ij}$  can be chosen to satisfy the associativity condition, that is,

$$(id_\ell \times \lambda_{ij})(\lambda_{i\ell} \times id_j)(id_i \times \lambda_{j\ell}) = (\lambda_{j\ell} \times id_i)(id_j \times \lambda_{i\ell})(\lambda_{ij} \times id_\ell)$$

as bijections from  $\Lambda^{\varepsilon_i} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_\ell}$  to  $\Lambda^{\varepsilon_\ell} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i}$  for all  $i < j < \ell$ .

**REMARK 4.1.** Many times  $R = \hat{G}$ , so  $\Lambda^0 = \hat{G}$ , for example, if  $\rho_i$  are faithful and  $\rho_i(G) \subseteq SU(\mathcal{H}_i)$  or if  $G$  is finite,  $\rho_i$  are faithful and  $\dim \rho_i \geq 2$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, k$  (see Lemma 7.2 and Remark 7.4 in [19]).

**PROPOSITION 4.2.** *Given representations  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  as above, assume that  $\rho_i$  are faithful and that  $R = \hat{G}$ . Then each choice of bijections  $\lambda_{ij}$  satisfying the associativity condition determines a rank  $k$  graph  $\Lambda$  which is cofinal and locally finite with no sources.*

**PROOF.** Indeed, the sets  $\Lambda^{e_i}$  are uniquely determined and the choice of bijections  $\lambda_{ij}$  satisfying the associativity condition is enough to determine  $\Lambda$ . Since the entries of the matrices  $M_i$  are finite and there are no zero rows, the graph is locally finite with no sources. To prove that  $\Lambda$  is cofinal, fix a vertex  $v \in \Lambda^0$  and an infinite path  $x \in \Lambda^\infty$ . Arguing as in Lemma 7.2 in [19], any  $w \in \Lambda^0$ , in particular,  $w = x(n)$  for a fixed  $n$ , can be joined by a path to  $v$ , so there is  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  with  $s(\lambda) = x(n)$  and  $r(\lambda) = v$ . See also Lemma 3.1 in [22]. □

**REMARK 4.3.** Note that the entry  $M_i(w, v)$  is just the multiplicity of the irreducible representation  $v$  in  $w \otimes \rho_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . If  $\rho_i^* = \rho_i$ , then the matrices  $M_i$  are symmetric since

$$\dim \text{Hom}(v, w \otimes \rho_i) = \dim \text{Hom}(\rho_i^* \otimes v, w)$$

which implies  $M_i(w; v) = M_i(v; w)$ . Here  $\rho_i^*$  denotes the dual representation defined by  $\rho_i^*(g) = \rho_i(g^{-1})^t$  and equal, in our case, to the conjugate representation  $\bar{\rho}_i$ .

For  $G$  finite, these matrices are finite, and the entries  $M_i(w, v)$  can be computed using the character table of  $G$ . For  $G$  infinite, the Clebsch–Gordan relations can be used to determine the numbers  $M_i(w, v)$ . Since the bijections  $\lambda_{ij}$  are, in general, not unique, the rank  $k$  graph  $\Lambda$  is not unique, as illustrated in some examples. It is an open question how the  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(\Lambda)$  depends, in general, on the factorization rules.

To relate the Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  to a rank  $k$  graph  $\Lambda$ , we mimic the construction in [22]. For each edge  $e \in \Lambda^{e_i}$ , choose an isometric intertwiner

$$T_e : \mathcal{H}_{s(e)} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{r(e)} \otimes \mathcal{H}_i$$

in such a way that

$$\mathcal{H}_\pi \otimes \mathcal{H}_i = \bigoplus_{e \in \pi \Lambda^{e_i}} T_e T_e^* (\mathcal{H}_\pi \otimes \mathcal{H}_i)$$

for all  $\pi \in \Lambda^0$ , that is, the edges in  $\Lambda^{e_i}$  ending at  $\pi$  give a specific decomposition of  $\mathcal{H}_\pi \otimes \mathcal{H}_i$  into irreducibles. When  $\dim \text{Hom}(s(e), r(e) \otimes \rho_i) \geq 2$ , we must choose a basis of isometric intertwiners with orthogonal ranges, so, in general,  $T_e$  is not unique. In fact, specific choices for the isometric intertwiners  $T_e$  determine the factorization rules in  $\Lambda$  and whether or not they satisfy the associativity condition.

Given  $e \in \Lambda^{e_i}$  and  $f \in \Lambda^{e_j}$  with  $r(f) = s(e)$ , we know how to multiply  $T_e \in \text{Hom}(s(e), r(e) \otimes \rho_i)$  with  $T_f \in \text{Hom}(s(f), r(f) \otimes \rho_j)$  in the algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$ , by viewing  $\text{Hom}(s(e), r(e) \otimes \rho_i)$  as a subspace of  $\text{Hom}(\rho^n, \rho^m)$  for some  $m, n$ , and similarly for  $\text{Hom}(s(f), r(f) \otimes \rho_j)$ . We choose edges  $e' \in \Lambda^{e_i}$ ,  $f' \in \Lambda^{e_j}$  with  $s(f) = s(e')$ ,  $r(e) = r(f')$ ,  $r(e') = s(f')$  such that  $T_e T_f = T_{f'} T_{e'}$ , where  $T_{f'} \in \text{Hom}(s(f'), r(f') \otimes \rho_j)$  and

$T_{e'} \in \text{Hom}(s(e'), r(e') \otimes \rho_i)$ . This is possible since

$$\begin{aligned} T_e T_f &= (T_e \otimes I_j) \circ T_f \in \text{Hom}(s(f), r(e) \otimes \rho_i \otimes \rho_j), \\ T_{f'} T_{e'} &= (T_{f'} \otimes I_i) \circ T_{e'} \in \text{Hom}(s(e'), r(f') \otimes \rho_j \otimes \rho_i), \end{aligned}$$

and  $\rho_i \otimes \rho_j \cong \rho_j \otimes \rho_i$ . In this case, we declare that  $ef = f'e'$ . Repeating this process, we obtain bijections  $\lambda_{ij} : \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} \rightarrow \Lambda^{\varepsilon_j} \times_{\Lambda^0} \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i}$ . Assuming that the associativity conditions are satisfied, we obtain a  $k$ -graph  $\Lambda$ .

We write  $T_{ef} = T_e T_f = T_{f'} T_{e'} = T_{f'e'}$ . A finite path  $\lambda \in \Lambda^n$  is a concatenation of edges and determines by composition a unique intertwiner

$$T_\lambda : \mathcal{H}_{s(\lambda)} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{r(\lambda)} \otimes \mathcal{H}^n.$$

Moreover, the paths  $\lambda \in \Lambda^n$  with  $r(\lambda) = \iota$ , the trivial representation, provide an explicit decomposition of  $\mathcal{H}^n = \mathcal{H}_1^{\otimes n_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_k^{\otimes n_k}$  into irreducibles, and hence

$$\mathcal{H}^n = \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \iota \Lambda^n} T_\lambda T_\lambda^*(\mathcal{H}^n).$$

**PROPOSITION 4.4.** *Assuming that the choices of isometric intertwiners  $T_e$ , as above, determine a  $k$ -graph  $\Lambda$ , the family*

$$\{T_\lambda T_\mu^* : \lambda \in \Lambda^m, \mu \in \Lambda^n, r(\lambda) = r(\mu) = \iota, s(\lambda) = s(\mu)\}$$

*is a basis for  $\text{Hom}(\rho^n, \rho^m)$  and each  $T_\lambda T_\mu^*$  is a partial isometry.*

**PROOF.** Each pair of paths  $\lambda, \mu$  with  $d(\lambda) = m, d(\mu) = n$  and  $r(\lambda) = r(\mu) = \iota$  determines a pair of irreducible summands  $T_\lambda(\mathcal{H}_{s(\lambda)}), T_\mu(\mathcal{H}_{s(\mu)})$  of  $\mathcal{H}^m$  and  $\mathcal{H}^n$ , respectively. By Schur's lemma, the space of intertwiners of these representations is trivial unless  $s(\lambda) = s(\mu)$ , in which case it is the one-dimensional space spanned by  $T_\lambda T_\mu^*$ . It follows that any element of  $\text{Hom}(\rho^n, \rho^m)$  can be uniquely represented as a linear combination of elements  $T_\lambda T_\mu^*$ , where  $s(\lambda) = s(\mu)$ . Since  $T_\mu$  is isometric,  $T_\mu^*$  is a partial isometry with range  $\mathcal{H}_{s(\mu)}$  and hence  $T_\lambda T_\mu^*$  is also a partial isometry whenever  $s(\lambda) = s(\mu)$ .  $\square$

**THEOREM 4.5.** *Consider  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  finite-dimensional unitary representations of a compact group  $G$  and let  $\Lambda$  be the  $k$ -colored graph with  $\Lambda^0 = R \subseteq \hat{G}$  and edges  $\Lambda^{\varepsilon_i}$  determined by the incidence matrices  $M_i$  defined above. Assume that the factorization rules determined by the choices of  $T_e \in \text{Hom}(s(e), r(e) \otimes \rho_i)$  for all edges  $e \in \Lambda^{\varepsilon_i}$  satisfy the associativity condition, so  $\Lambda$  becomes a rank  $k$  graph. If we consider  $P \in C^*(\Lambda)$ ,*

$$P = \sum_{\lambda \in \iota \Lambda^{(1, \dots, 1)}} S_\lambda S_\lambda^*,$$

*where  $\iota$  is the trivial representation, then there is a \*-isomorphism of the Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  onto the corner  $PC^*(\Lambda)P$ .*

**PROOF.** Since  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is generated by linear combinations of  $S_\lambda S_\mu^*$  with  $s(\lambda) = s(\mu)$  (see Lemma 3.1 in [18]), we first define the maps

$$\phi_{n,m} : Hom(\rho^n, \rho^m) \rightarrow C^*(\Lambda), \quad \phi_{n,m}(T_\lambda T_\mu^*) = S_\lambda S_\mu^*,$$

where  $s(\lambda) = s(\mu)$  and  $r(\lambda) = r(\mu) = \iota$ . Since  $S_\lambda S_\mu^* = PS_\lambda S_\mu^* P$ , the maps  $\phi_{n,m}$  take values in  $PC^*(\Lambda)P$ . We claim that, for any  $r \in \mathbb{N}^k$ ,

$$\phi_{n+r,m+r}(T_\lambda T_\mu^* \otimes I_r) = \phi_{n,m}(T_\lambda T_\mu^*).$$

This is because

$$\mathcal{H}_{s(\lambda)} \otimes \mathcal{H}^r = \bigoplus_{v \in s(\lambda)\Lambda^r} T_v T_v^*(\mathcal{H}_{s(\lambda)} \otimes \mathcal{H}^r),$$

so that

$$T_\lambda T_\mu^* \otimes I_r = \sum_{v \in s(\lambda)\Lambda^r} (T_\lambda \otimes I_r)(T_v T_v^*)(T_\mu^* \otimes I_r) = \sum_{v \in s(\lambda)\Lambda^r} T_{\lambda v} T_{\mu v}^*$$

and

$$S_\lambda S_\mu^* = \sum_{v \in s(\lambda)\Lambda^r} S_\lambda (S_v S_v^*) S_\mu^* = \sum_{v \in s(\lambda)\Lambda^r} S_{\lambda v} S_{\mu v}^*.$$

The maps  $\phi_{n,m}$  determine a map  $\phi : {}^0O_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k} \rightarrow PC^*(\Lambda)P$  which is linear,  $*$ -preserving and multiplicative. Indeed,

$$\phi_{n,m}(T_\lambda T_\mu^*)^* = (S_\lambda S_\mu^*)^* = S_\mu S_\lambda = \phi_{m,n}(T_\mu T_\lambda^*).$$

Consider now  $T_\lambda T_\mu^* \in Hom(\rho^n, \rho^m)$ ,  $T_\nu T_\omega^* \in Hom(\rho^q, \rho^p)$  with  $s(\lambda) = s(\mu), s(\nu) = s(\omega), r(\lambda) = r(\mu) = r(\nu) = r(\omega) = \iota$ . Since, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}^k$ ,

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda^n} T_\lambda T_\lambda^* = I_n,$$

we get

$$T_\mu^* T_\nu = \begin{cases} T_\beta^* & \text{if } \mu = \nu\beta, \\ T_\alpha & \text{if } \nu = \mu\alpha, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and hence

$$\phi((T_\lambda T_\mu^*)(T_\nu T_\omega^*)) = \begin{cases} \phi(T_\lambda T_{\omega\beta}^*) = S_\lambda S_{\omega\beta}^* & \text{if } \mu = \nu\beta, \\ \phi(T_{\lambda\alpha} T_\omega^*) = S_{\lambda\alpha} S_\omega^* & \text{if } \nu = \mu\alpha, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

On the other hand, from Lemma 3.1 in [18],

$$S_\lambda S_\mu^* S_\nu S_\omega^* = \begin{cases} S_\lambda S_{\omega\beta}^* & \text{if } \mu = \nu\beta, \\ S_{\lambda\alpha} S_\omega^* & \text{if } \nu = \mu\alpha, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and hence

$$\phi((T_\lambda T_\mu^*)(T_\nu T_\omega^*)) = \phi(T_\lambda T_\mu^*)\phi(T_\nu T_\omega^*).$$

Since  $PS_\lambda S_\mu^* P = \phi_{n,m}(T_\lambda T_\mu^*)$  if  $r(\lambda) = r(\mu) = \iota$  and  $s(\lambda) = s(\mu)$ , it follows that  $\phi$  is surjective. Injectivity follows from the fact that  $\phi$  is equivariant for the gauge action.  $\square$

**COROLLARY 4.6.** *If the  $k$ -graph  $\Lambda$  associated to  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  is cofinal, satisfies the aperiodicity condition and every vertex connects to a loop with an entrance, then the Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  is simple and purely infinite, and is Morita equivalent with  $C^*(\Lambda)$ .*

**PROOF.** This follows from the fact that  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is simple and purely infinite and because  $PC^*(\Lambda)P$  is a full corner.  $\square$

**REMARK 4.7.** There is a groupoid  $\mathcal{G}_\Lambda$  associated to a row-finite rank  $k$  graph  $\Lambda$  with no sources (see [18]). By taking the pointed groupoid  $\mathcal{G}_\Lambda(\iota)$ , the reduction to the set of infinite paths with range  $\iota$ , under the same conditions as in Theorem 4.5, we get an isomorphism of the Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k}$  onto  $C^*(\mathcal{G}_\Lambda(\iota))$ .

### 5. Examples

**EXAMPLE 5.1.** Let  $G = S_3$  be the symmetric group with  $\hat{G} = \{\iota, \epsilon, \sigma\}$  and character table

	(1)	(12)	(123)
$\iota$	1	1	1
$\epsilon$	1	-1	1
$\sigma$	2	0	-1

Here  $\iota$  denotes the trivial representation,  $\epsilon$  is the sign representation and  $\sigma$  is an irreducible 2-dimensional representation, for example,

$$\sigma((12)) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \sigma((123)) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By choosing  $\rho_1 = \sigma$  on  $\mathcal{H}_1 = \mathbb{C}^2$  and  $\rho_2 = \iota + \sigma$  on  $\mathcal{H}_2 = \mathbb{C}^3$ , we get a product system  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^2$  and an action of  $S_3$  on  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) \cong \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_3$  with fixed point algebra  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})^{S_3} \cong \mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \rho_2}$  isomorphic to a corner of the  $C^*$ -algebra of a rank two graph  $\Lambda$ . The

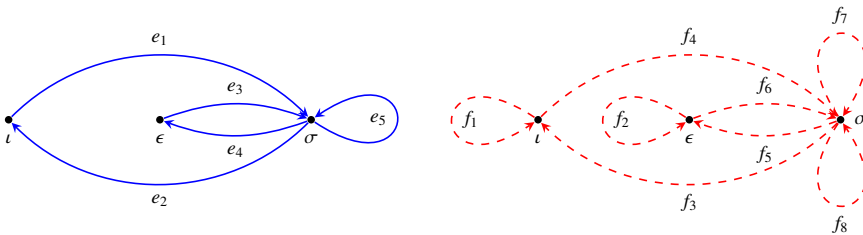
set of vertices is  $\Lambda^0 = \{\iota, \epsilon, \sigma\}$  and the edges are given by the incidence matrices

$$M_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This is because

$$\begin{aligned} \iota \otimes \rho_1 &= \sigma, & \epsilon \otimes \rho_1 &= \sigma, & \sigma \otimes \rho_1 &= \iota + \epsilon + \sigma, \\ \iota \otimes \rho_2 &= \iota + \sigma, & \epsilon \otimes \rho_2 &= \epsilon + \sigma, & \sigma \otimes \rho_2 &= \iota + \epsilon + 2\sigma. \end{aligned}$$

We label the blue (solid) edges by  $e_1, \dots, e_5$  and the red (dashed) edges by  $f_1, \dots, f_8$  as in the figure below.



The isometric intertwiners are

$$\begin{aligned} T_{e_1} : \mathcal{H}_\iota &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\sigma \otimes \mathcal{H}_1, & T_{e_2} : \mathcal{H}_\sigma &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\iota \otimes \mathcal{H}_1, & T_{e_3} : \mathcal{H}_\epsilon &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\sigma \otimes \mathcal{H}_1, \\ T_{e_4} : \mathcal{H}_\sigma &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\epsilon \otimes \mathcal{H}_1, & T_{e_5} : \mathcal{H}_\sigma &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\sigma \otimes \mathcal{H}_1, \\ T_{f_1} : \mathcal{H}_\iota &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\iota \otimes \mathcal{H}_2, & T_{f_2} : \mathcal{H}_\epsilon &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\epsilon \otimes \mathcal{H}_2, & T_{f_3} : \mathcal{H}_\sigma &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\iota \otimes \mathcal{H}_2, \\ T_{f_4} : \mathcal{H}_\iota &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\sigma \otimes \mathcal{H}_2, & T_{f_5} : \mathcal{H}_\sigma &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\epsilon \otimes \mathcal{H}_2, & T_{f_6} : \mathcal{H}_\epsilon &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\sigma \otimes \mathcal{H}_2, \\ T_{f_7}, T_{f_8} : \mathcal{H}_\sigma &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\sigma \otimes \mathcal{H}_2 \end{aligned}$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned} T_{e_1} T_{e_1}^* + T_{e_3} T_{e_3}^* + T_{e_5} T_{e_5}^* &= I_\sigma \otimes I_1, & T_{e_2} T_{e_2}^* &= I_\iota \otimes I_1, & T_{e_4} T_{e_4}^* &= I_\epsilon \otimes I_1, \\ T_{f_1} T_{f_1}^* + T_{f_3} T_{f_3}^* &= I_\iota \otimes I_2, & T_{f_2} T_{f_2}^* + T_{f_5} T_{f_5}^* &= I_\epsilon \otimes I_2, \\ T_{f_4} T_{f_4}^* + T_{f_6} T_{f_6}^* + T_{f_7} T_{f_7}^* + T_{f_8} T_{f_8}^* &= I_\sigma \otimes I_2. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $I_\pi$  is the identity of  $\mathcal{H}_\pi$  for  $\pi \in \hat{G}$  and  $I_i$  is the identity of  $\mathcal{H}_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Since

$$M_1 M_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_{e_2}T_{f_4}, T_{f_3}T_{e_1} &\in \text{Hom}(\iota, \iota \otimes \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2), \\
 T_{e_2}T_{f_6}, T_{f_3}T_{e_3} &\in \text{Hom}(\epsilon, \iota \otimes \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2), \\
 T_{e_2}T_{f_7}, T_{e_2}T_{f_8}, T_{f_1}T_{e_2}, T_{f_3}T_{e_5} &\in \text{Hom}(\sigma, \iota \otimes \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2), \\
 T_{e_4}T_{f_4}, T_{f_5}T_{e_1} &\in \text{Hom}(\iota, \epsilon \otimes \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2), \\
 T_{e_4}T_{f_6}, T_{f_5}T_{e_3} &\in \text{Hom}(\epsilon, \epsilon \otimes \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2), \\
 T_{e_4}T_{f_7}, T_{e_4}T_{f_8}, T_{f_2}T_{e_4}, T_{f_5}T_{e_5} &\in \text{Hom}(\sigma, \epsilon \otimes \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2), \\
 T_{e_1}T_{f_1}, T_{e_5}T_{f_4}, T_{f_7}T_{e_1}, T_{f_8}T_{e_1} &\in \text{Hom}(\iota, \sigma \otimes \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2), \\
 T_{e_3}T_{f_2}, T_{e_5}T_{f_6}, T_{f_7}T_{e_3}, T_{f_8}T_{e_3} &\in \text{Hom}(\epsilon, \sigma \otimes \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2), \\
 T_{e_5}T_{f_7}, T_{e_5}T_{f_8}, T_{e_3}T_{f_5}, T_{e_1}T_{f_3}, T_{f_6}T_{e_4}, T_{f_4}T_{e_2}, T_{f_7}T_{e_5}, T_{f_8}T_{e_5} &\in \text{Hom}(\sigma, \sigma \otimes \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2),
 \end{aligned}$$

a possible choice of commuting squares is

$$\begin{aligned}
 e_2f_4 = f_3e_1, \quad e_2f_6 = f_3e_3, \quad e_2f_7 = f_1e_2, \quad e_2f_8 = f_3e_5, \quad e_4f_4 = f_5e_1, \quad e_4f_6 = f_5e_3, \\
 e_4f_7 = f_2e_4, \quad e_4f_8 = f_5e_5, \quad e_1f_1 = f_7e_1, \quad e_5f_4 = f_8e_1, \quad e_3f_2 = f_7e_3, \quad e_5f_6 = f_8e_3, \\
 e_5f_7 = f_6e_4, \quad e_5f_8 = f_4e_2, \quad e_3f_5 = f_7e_5, \quad e_1f_3 = f_8e_5.
 \end{aligned}$$

This data is enough to determine a rank two graph  $\Lambda$  associated to  $\rho_1, \rho_2$ . But this is not the only choice, since, for example, we could have taken

$$\begin{aligned}
 e_2f_4 = f_3e_1, \quad e_2f_6 = f_3e_3, \quad e_2f_8 = f_1e_2, \quad e_2f_7 = f_3e_5, \quad e_4f_4 = f_5e_1, \quad e_4f_6 = f_5e_3, \\
 e_4f_8 = f_2e_4, \quad e_4f_7 = f_5e_5, \quad e_1f_1 = f_7e_1, \quad e_5f_4 = f_8e_1, \quad e_3f_2 = f_8e_3, \quad e_5f_6 = f_7e_3, \\
 e_5f_7 = f_6e_4, \quad e_5f_8 = f_4e_2, \quad e_3f_5 = f_7e_5, \quad e_1f_3 = f_8e_5,
 \end{aligned}$$

which determines a different 2-graph.

A direct analysis using the definitions shows that, in each case, the 2-graph  $\Lambda$  is cofinal, satisfies the aperiodicity condition and every vertex connects to a loop with an entrance. It follows that  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is simple and purely infinite and the Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \rho_2}$  is Morita equivalent with  $C^*(\Lambda)$ .

The  $K$ -theory of  $C^*(\Lambda)$  can be computed using Proposition 3.16 in [11] and it does not depend on the choice of factorization rules. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 K_0(C^*(\Lambda)) &\cong \text{coker}[I - M'_1 \quad I - M'_2] \oplus \ker \begin{bmatrix} M'_2 - I \\ I - M'_1 \end{bmatrix} \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \\
 K_1(C^*(\Lambda)) &\cong \ker[I - M'_1 \quad I - M'_2] / \text{im} \begin{bmatrix} M'_2 - I \\ I - M'_1 \end{bmatrix} \cong 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

In particular,  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \rho_2} \cong \mathcal{O}_3$ .



On the other hand, since  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  are faithful, both Doplicher–Roberts algebras  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1}, \mathcal{O}_{\rho_2}$  are simple and purely infinite with

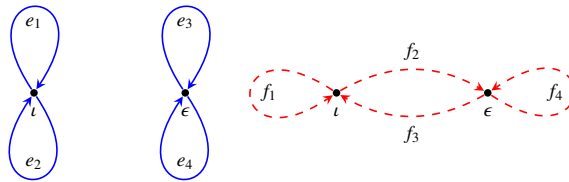
$$K_0(\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, K_1(\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1}) \cong 0, K_0(\mathcal{O}_{\rho_2}) \cong \mathbb{Z}, K_1(\mathcal{O}_{\rho_2}) \cong \mathbb{Z},$$

so  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \rho_2} \not\cong \mathcal{O}_{\rho_1} \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\rho_2}$ .

**EXAMPLE 5.2.** With  $G = S_3$  and  $\rho_1 = 2\iota, \rho_2 = \iota + \epsilon$ , then  $R = \{\iota, \epsilon\}$ , so  $\Lambda$  has two vertices and incidence matrices

$$M_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

which give



Again, a corresponding choice of isometric intertwiners determines some factorization rules, for example,

$$\begin{aligned} e_1 f_1 &= f_1 e_2, & e_2 f_1 &= f_1 e_1, & e_1 f_3 &= f_3 e_3, & e_2 f_3 &= f_3 e_4, \\ e_3 f_2 &= f_2 e_1, & e_4 f_2 &= f_2 e_2, & e_3 f_4 &= f_4 e_4, & e_4 f_4 &= f_4 e_3. \end{aligned}$$

Even though  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  are not faithful, the obtained 2-graph is cofinal, satisfies the aperiodicity condition and every vertex connects to a loop with an entrance, so  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \rho_2}$  is simple and purely infinite with trivial  $K$ -theory. In particular,  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \rho_2} \cong \mathcal{O}_2$ .

Note that, since  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  have kernel  $N = \langle (123) \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ , we could replace  $G$  by  $G/N \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and consider  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  as representations of  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .

**EXAMPLE 5.3.** Consider  $G = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1\}$  with  $\hat{G} = \{\iota, \chi\}$  and character table

	0	1
$\iota$	1	1
$\chi$	1	-1

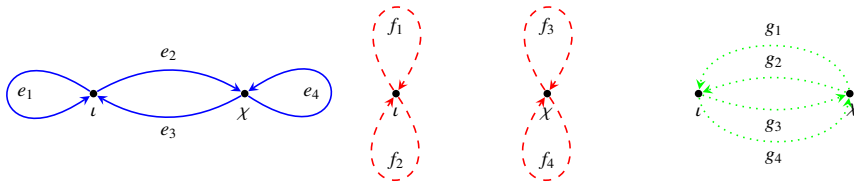
Choose the 2-dimensional representations

$$\rho_1 = \iota + \chi, \quad \rho_2 = 2\iota, \quad \rho_3 = 2\chi,$$

which determine a product system  $\mathcal{E}$  such that  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) \cong \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$  and a Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \rho_2, \rho_3} \cong \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})^{\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}}$ .

An easy computation shows that the incidence matrices of the blue (solid), red (dashed) and green (dotted) graphs are

$$M_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$



With labels as in the figure, we choose the following factorization rules.

$$e_1 f_1 = f_2 e_1, \quad e_1 f_2 = f_1 e_1, \quad e_2 f_1 = f_4 e_2, \quad e_2 f_2 = f_3 e_2,$$

$$e_3 f_3 = f_2 e_3, \quad e_3 f_4 = f_1 e_3, \quad e_4 f_4 = f_3 e_4, \quad e_4 f_3 = f_4 e_4,$$

$$f_1 g_1 = g_2 f_3, \quad f_1 g_2 = g_1 f_3, \quad f_2 g_1 = g_2 f_4, \quad f_2 g_2 = g_1 f_4,$$

$$f_3 g_3 = g_4 f_1, \quad f_3 g_4 = g_3 f_1, \quad f_4 g_3 = g_4 f_2, \quad f_4 g_4 = g_3 f_2,$$

$$e_1 g_1 = g_2 e_4, \quad e_1 g_2 = g_1 e_4, \quad e_2 g_1 = g_3 e_3, \quad e_2 g_2 = g_4 e_3,$$

$$e_3 g_3 = g_1 e_2, \quad e_3 g_4 = g_2 e_2, \quad e_4 g_3 = g_4 e_1, \quad e_4 g_4 = g_3 e_1.$$

A tedious verification shows that all the following paths are well defined.

$$e_1 f_1 g_1, \quad e_1 f_1 g_2, \quad e_1 f_2 g_1, \quad e_1 f_2 g_2, \quad e_2 f_1 g_1, \quad e_2 f_1 g_2, \quad e_2 f_2 g_1, \quad e_2 f_2 g_2,$$

$$e_3 f_3 g_3, \quad e_3 f_3 g_4, \quad e_3 f_4 g_3, \quad e_3 f_4 g_4, \quad e_4 f_3 g_3, \quad e_4 f_3 g_4, \quad e_4 f_4 g_3, \quad e_4 f_4 g_4,$$

so the associativity property is satisfied and we get a rank three graph  $\Lambda$  with two vertices. It is not difficult to check that  $\Lambda$  is cofinal, satisfies the aperiodicity condition and every vertex connects to a loop with an entrance, so  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is simple and purely infinite.

Since  $\partial_1 = [I - M_1^t \quad I - M_2^t \quad I - M_3^t] : \mathbb{Z}^6 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2$  is surjective, using Corollary 3.18 in [11], we obtain

$$K_0(C^*(\Lambda)) \cong \ker \partial_2 / \text{im } \partial_3 \cong 0, \quad K_1(C^*(\Lambda)) \cong \ker \partial_1 / \text{im } \partial_2 \oplus \ker \partial_3 \cong 0,$$

where

$$\partial_2 = \begin{bmatrix} M_2^t - I & M_3^t - I & 0 \\ I - M_1^t & 0 & M_3^t - I \\ 0 & I - M_1^t & I - M_2^t \end{bmatrix}, \quad \partial_3 = \begin{bmatrix} I - M_3^t \\ M_2^t - I \\ I - M_1^t \end{bmatrix},$$

and, in particular,  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \rho_2, \rho_3} \cong \mathcal{O}_2$ .

**EXAMPLE 5.4.** Let  $G = \mathbb{T}$ . We have  $\hat{G} = \{\chi_k : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , where  $\chi_k(z) = z^k$  and  $\chi_k \otimes \chi_\ell = \chi_{k+\ell}$ . The faithful representations

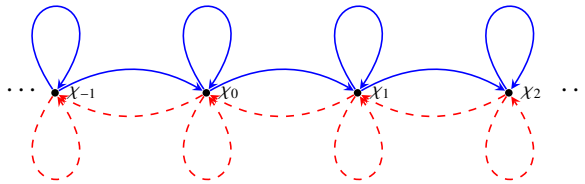
$$\rho_1 = \chi_{-1} + \chi_0, \rho_2 = \chi_0 + \chi_1$$

of  $\mathbb{T}$  determine a product system  $\mathcal{E}$  with  $O(\mathcal{E}) \cong O_2 \otimes O_2$  and a Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $O_{\rho_1, \rho_2} \cong O(\mathcal{E})^{\mathbb{T}}$  isomorphic to a corner in the  $C^*$ -algebra of a rank 2 graph  $\Lambda$  with  $\Lambda^0 = \hat{G}$  and infinite incidence matrices, where

$$M_1(\chi_k, \chi_\ell) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \ell = k \text{ or } \ell = k - 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$M_2(\chi_k, \chi_\ell) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \ell = k \text{ or } \ell = k + 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The skeleton of  $\Lambda$  looks like



and this 2-graph is cofinal, satisfies the aperiodicity condition and every vertex connects to a loop with an entrance, so  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is simple and purely infinite.

**EXAMPLE 5.5.** Let  $G = SU(2)$ . It is known (see page 84 in [2]) that the elements in  $\hat{G}$  are labeled by  $V_n$  for  $n \geq 0$ , where  $V_0 = \iota$  is the trivial representation on  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $V_1$  is the standard representation of  $SU(2)$  on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , and, for  $n \geq 2$ ,  $V_n = S^n V_1$ , the  $n$ th symmetric power. In fact,  $\dim V_n = n + 1$  and  $V_n$  can be taken as the representation of  $SU(2)$  on the space of homogeneous polynomials  $p$  of degree  $n$  in variables  $z_1, z_2$ , where, for  $g = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in SU(2)$ ,

$$(g \cdot p)(z) = p(az_1 + cz_2, bz_1 + dz_2).$$

The irreducible representations  $V_n$  satisfy the Clebsch–Gordan formula

$$V_k \otimes V_\ell = \bigoplus_{j=0}^q V_{k+\ell-2j}, \quad q = \min\{k, \ell\}.$$

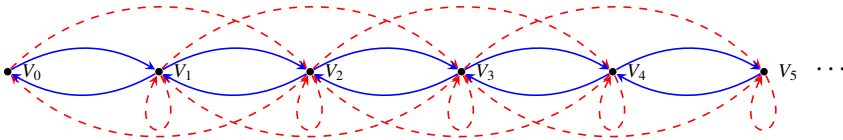
If we choose  $\rho_1 = V_1, \rho_2 = V_2$ , then we get a product system  $\mathcal{E}$  with  $O(\mathcal{E}) \cong O_2 \otimes O_3$  and a Doplicher–Roberts algebra  $O_{\rho_1, \rho_2} \cong O(\mathcal{E})^{SU(2)}$  isomorphic to a corner in the

$C^*$ -algebra of a rank two graph with  $\Lambda^0 = \hat{G}$  and edges given by the matrices

$$M_1(V_k, V_\ell) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = 0 \text{ and } \ell = 1, \\ 1 & \text{if } k \geq 1 \text{ and } \ell \in \{k-1, k+1\}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$M_2(V_k, V_\ell) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = 0 \text{ and } \ell = 2, \\ 1 & \text{if } k = 1 \text{ and } \ell \in \{1, 3\}, \\ 1 & \text{if } k \geq 2 \text{ and } \ell \in \{k-2, k, k+2\}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The skeleton looks like



and this 2-graph is cofinal, satisfies the aperiodicity condition and every vertex connects to a loop with an entrance; in particular,  $\mathcal{O}_{\rho_1, \rho_2}$  is simple and purely infinite.

## References

- [1] S. Albandik and R. Meyer, ‘Product systems over Ore monoids’, *Doc. Math.* **20** (2015), 1331–1402.
- [2] T. Bröcker and T. tom Dieck, *Representations of Compact Lie Groups*, Graduate Texts in Mathematics, 98 (Springer, Berlin–Heidelberg, 1985).
- [3] B. Burgstaller, ‘Some multidimensional Cuntz algebras’, *Aequationes Math.* **76**(1–2) (2008), 19–32.
- [4] T. M. Carlsen, N. Larsen, A. Sims and S. T. Vittadello, ‘Co-universal algebras associated to product systems and gauge-invariant uniqueness theorems’, *Proc. Lond. Math. Soc. (3)* **103**(4) (2011), 563–600.
- [5] K. R. Davidson and D. Yang, ‘Periodicity in rank 2 graph algebras’, *Canad. J. Math.* **61**(6) 2009, 1239–1261.
- [6] K. R. Davidson and D. Yang, ‘Representations of higher rank graph algebras’, *New York J. Math.* **15** (2009), 169–198.
- [7] V. Deaconu, L. Huang and A. Sims, ‘Group actions on product systems and K-theory’, to appear.
- [8] S. Doplicher and J. E. Roberts, ‘Duals of compact Lie groups realized in the Cuntz algebras and their actions on  $C^*$ -algebras’, *J. Funct. Anal.* **74** (1987), 96–120.
- [9] S. Doplicher and J. E. Roberts, ‘A new duality theory for compact groups’, *Invent. Math.* **98** (1989), 157–218.
- [10] A. Dor-On and E. T. A. Kakariadis, ‘Operator algebras for higher rank analysis and their application to factorial languages’, *J. Anal. Math.* **143**(2) (2021), 555–613.
- [11] D. G. Evans, ‘On the K-theory of higher rank graph  $C^*$ -algebras’, *New York J. Math.* **14** (2008), 1–31.
- [12] N. J. Fowler, ‘Discrete product systems of finite dimensional Hilbert spaces and generalized Cuntz algebras’, Preprint, 1999, <https://arxiv.org/abs/math/9904116>.

- [13] N. J. Fowler, 'Discrete product systems of Hilbert bimodules', *Pacific J. Math.* **204** (2002), 335–375.
- [14] N. J. Fowler and A. Sims, 'Product systems over right-angled Artin semigroups', *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* **354** (2002), 1487–1509.
- [15] G. Hao and C.-K. Ng, 'Crossed products of  $C^*$ -correspondences by amenable group actions', *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **345**(2) (2008), 702–707.
- [16] T. Kajiwara, C. Pinzari and Y. Watatani, 'Ideal structure and simplicity of the  $C^*$ -algebras generated by Hilbert bimodules', *J. Funct. Anal.* **159**(2) (1998), 295–322.
- [17] E. Katsoulis, 'Product systems of  $C^*$ -correspondences and Takai duality', *Israel J. Math.* **240**(1) (2020), 223–251.
- [18] A. Kumjian and D. Pask, 'Higher rank graph  $C^*$ -algebras', *New York J. Math.* **6** (2000), 1–20.
- [19] A. Kumjian, D. Pask, I. Raeburn and J. Renault, 'Graphs, groupoids and Cuntz–Krieger algebras', *J. Funct. Anal.* **144**(2) (1997), 505–541.
- [20] H. Li and D. Yang, 'Boundary quotient  $C^*$ -algebras of products of odometers', *Canad. J. Math.* **71**(1) (2019), 183–212.
- [21] H. Li and D. Yang, 'Self-similar  $k$ -graph  $C^*$ -algebras', *Int. Math. Res. Not. IMRN* **15** (2021), 11270–11305.
- [22] M. H. Mann, I. Raeburn and C. E. Sutherland, 'Representations of finite groups and Cuntz–Krieger algebras', *Bull. Aust. Math. Soc.* **46** (1992), 225–243.
- [23] D. Robertson and A. Sims, 'Simplicity of  $C^*$ -algebras associated to row-finite locally convex higher-rank graphs', *Israel J. Math.* **172** (2009), 171–192.
- [24] A. Sims, 'Gauge-invariant ideals in  $C^*$ -algebras of finitely aligned higher-rank graphs', *Canad. J. Math.* **58**(6) (2006), 1268–1290.
- [25] A. Sims, 'Graphs and  $C^*$ -algebras', *Austral. Math. Soc. Gaz.* **39**(1) (2012).
- [26] A. Sims and T. Yeend, ' $C^*$ -algebras associated to product systems of Hilbert bimodules', *J. Operator Theory* **64**(2) (2010), 349–376.

VALENTIN DEACONU, Department of Mathematics and Statistics,  
University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557-0084, USA  
e-mail: [vdeaconu@unr.edu](mailto:vdeaconu@unr.edu)